

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1500
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2002
PRICES OF BLOOD
ANANDRAO ADSUL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the blood prices in the country are very high and varies from place to place;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any steps taken by the Government to have a uniform price of blood throughout the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) : Selling of blood is prohibited and, therefore, no charges should be levied for blood itself. However some service charge for testing and processing of the donated blood is recovered

(c) & (d) : National Blood Transfusion Council has drawn guidelines for recovery of service charges for testing and processing of blood before it is issued for transfusion and these guidelines have been circulated by Ministry of Health & FW. The processing cost of blood has been estimated to be Rs.500/- per unit and the cost recovery shall be as follows:-

(i) Government and Voluntary blood banks issuing blood to patients in their own hospital or in other government or Voluntary sector hospitals may charge Rs.250/- per unit and subsidize the rest of the cost. These Blood Banks while issuing blood to private nursing homes/hospitals may recover full processing cost of Rs.500/- per unit of blood.

(ii) Private Blood Banks : The blood banks in private sector may recover cost towards service charges to a maximum of Rs.500/- per unit